

Message from EMSIP Chief

Death and disability due to injury represent the most critical public health problems facing our children today. Although injuries affect every segment of our communities, our young people are particularly vulnerable.

Each year in Hawaii, preventable injuries kill an average of one child each week. You're all familiar



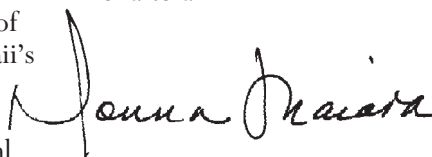
with the causes—44% are motor vehicle crashes, 23% are violence and abuse (to include homicide and suicide), and 12% are drownings. The leading causes of hospitalizations for Hawaii's youth are falls, motor vehicle injuries, suicide attempts, and recreational activities.

Emergency medical personnel must be involved with the science of injury to understand how injuries can be prevented. Research defines the scope of the problem and tells us who is at risk, why they are at risk, and when and where they are at risk. Research, paired with activism, is mobilizing EMS with community members alike to create and promote technological, social, behavioral, and medical solutions that will contribute to effective prevention programs.

The challenge for EMS injury prevention programs lies in increasing public awareness and understanding of injury as a public health problem, and then persuading the public to accept and invest in safety interventions which benefit our society as a whole.

Mahalo, my friends and colleagues, for meeting the challenge!

Aloha to all



Donna Maiava, Chief
Emergency Medical Services
and Injury Prevention



Mayor Jeremy Harris, left, congratulates MICT Ian Santee, the City and County of Honolulu's Employee of the Year for 2002.

He's Done It Again!!

Standing on the courtyard stage at Honolulu Hale, smiling at his family, friends, and colleagues, the Department of Emergency Services' Ian Santee couldn't imagine what was to come. A finalist in the Mayor's Outstanding Employees Program, Ian thought his youth and few years of service in the field would not work in his favor. Moments later, Hawaii's MICT of the Year became the City and County of Honolulu's Employee of the Year. Ever modest, Ian looked stunned as the crowd erupted in applause even before his name was announced.

"I feel quite honored to receive this award," said Ian. "It truly reflects on the entire Emergency Medical Services Division and the quality and caliber of the work we all do."

Mayor Jeremy Harris commended Ian for his many accomplishments, both on and off the job, and thanked him for his dedication to fulfilling the enormous responsibility of providing for the health, safety, and numerous basic daily needs of the people in our island community. Mayor Harris also recognized Ian's injury prevention efforts and wished him well on the launching of his EMS Explorers Program.

Kudos to you, Ian—you make us proud!

About 7% of all fatal injuries among children ages 0-19 were pedestrian injuries (1991-2000).

Data compiled by the Injury Prevention and Control Program, Department of Health, for the Keiki Injury Prevention Action Plan 2002, "Protecting Our Children: Strategies for Injury Prevention"

Resource Board

In each newsletter, injury prevention resources will be featured. If you have a favorite of your own that you would like to share with your colleagues, we would love to hear from you. Here are the picks for this edition:

Publications

The revised edition of “Preventing Childhood Emergencies: A Guide to Developing Effective Injury Prevention Initiatives” is now available. The guide, prepared by the EMSC National Resource Center in Washington, D.C., focuses on the following key areas:

- What is Injury Prevention?
- The Role of EMS in Injury Prevention
- Developing Outcome-oriented Programs
- Conducting an Evaluation and Collecting Data
- Seeking Partners in Prevention
- Recommended Resources (on various childhood related injury areas)

This resource is not copyrighted so readers are free to duplicate and use all or part of the information contained in the publication. For a copy of “Preventing Childhood Emergencies,” call Lois Sugai, State EMS Injury Prevention Coordinator, at 587-5667.

Childhood Injury Prevention Links

“In My Backyard” is a state-based Internet directory of injury prevention resources with a rural slant. It is accessible through the National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety’s website <<http://research.marshfieldclinic.org.children/>>. “In My Backyard” offers web-based links to selected state, regional, federal, and national injury prevention resources most likely to be used on the state and community level for injury prevention activities.

KIPC Korner



What is it?

The Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition/SAFE KIDS Hawaii (KIPC) is one of five coalitions supporting this statewide initiative to address the problem of violence in Hawaii and make it a public issue that is unacceptable. The first step in the Campaign is to heighten public awareness about the critical role that each of us plays, that there is no excuse for violence, that it is everyone’s business and that it affects every person, every family and every company in some way. Violence is a problem we can collectively solve. Several media spots on violence prevention are being aired that show the impact of violence in our homes, neighborhoods, workplace and schools to set the stage for mobilizing partnerships and initiatives with local agencies and communities throughout the state.

What to look for?

The Plumeria flower was chosen as a symbol for the Campaign since it is a positive visual that is universally recognized as promoting what can be good about Hawaii. To combine the power of this positive symbol with each individual’s contribution and to support the overall Campaign, KIPC is promoting the sale of plumeria pins, with part of the proceeds going towards KIPC’s childhood injury prevention efforts. Pins are available at the Injury Prevention Program office (586-5940 for more information) or at KIPC monthly meetings. To get involved in violence prevention efforts in Hawaii, contact the Unified Approach to Violence Prevention Consortium at 586-5757.

Contributed by Therese Argoud, Childhood Injury Prevention Coordinator, the Department of Health Injury Prevention and Control Program.

In the 1991-2000 period, pedestrian injuries were the leading cause of fatal injuries in children 5-9 years old in Hawaii.

On Oahu, children ages 5-15 are at highest risk of pedestrian injuries as evidenced by the need for ambulance transport (1995-1998).

Answering the Call News from Around the Islands...



1 **AMR-Kauai Manager Zach Octavio** reports that his dedicated Kauai crew, in addition to their everyday injury prevention efforts, assisted KPD with their pre-holiday roadside and car seat checks. As usual, Medic 21 continues to average one car seat checkup per day. Booster seats are starting to arrive for the upcoming “Boost Kauai” campaign. In another arena, Zach has served as the Kauai Pop Warner football “standby” since the Fall, making it 17 seasons in a row of volunteering his time and expertise.

Moana Taa, KKIPC coordinator, and **Jovita Sagadraca**, AMR IP Coordinator, attended a two-day seminar in San Antonio, TX for “Shattered Dreams”, a program about drinking and driving directed at high school students. The program, now in the planning stages of being offered on Kauai, simulates a motor vehicle crash. It is a tremendous undertaking and involves all emergency and post-emergency response systems, including Wilcox Hospital, KPD, KFD, AMR, Kauai Mortuary, and Kauai Towing. Kauai Rural Health and KIPC are sponsoring “Shattered Dreams”.

Lastly, Zach reports that another Andy the Ambulance is making its way to Kauai. Andy is a popular and highly effective teaching tool already in use on Oahu and **Danny Sagadraca**, already filling his calendar with appointments for demonstrations, can’t wait to get his hands on it!

2 Maui’s keiki are safer, thanks to the efforts of Maui’s injury prevention team and their focus on Child Passenger Safety (CPS). **AMR-Maui’s Curt Morimoto** reports that a number of car seat checkups took place during September through December, with more scheduled as the New Year begins. **Lt. Charles Hirata of MPD**, conducted a CPS Update class for Maui technicians and a MFD recruit class of 17 were trained as technicians back in October.

AMR-Maui recently hired MICT **Christian Conradt** as their Injury Prevention Coordinator (IPC). Christian will dedicate eight hours per week towards injury prevention efforts in this newly created position.

3 In keeping with his dedication to injury prevention, the City & County of Honolulu’s **Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services’** Injury Prevention Coordinator, **Jimmy Barros**, reports that MICT Ian Santee and he teamed up to shoot a “Happy Holidays” public service announcement featuring EMS and Ocean Safety personnel. The PSA focused on prevention points and public awareness in and around the beach during the past holiday season.

Jimmy also recounts that the 15 Ocean Safety Officers of the first annual Ocean Safety Division (OSD) EMT-B class wrapped up their National Registry Skills and Written examinations at Kapiolani Community College December 15 - 16, 2002. The program, which permits OSD personnel to offer a higher level of care to patients without going outside their scope of practice, was lead by Ian Santee. The undertaking was truly a collaborative effort between EMS and OSD, with lectures and lessons conducted by EMS personnel **Spencer Yamamoto, Evan Yamagishi, Don Takara, Belinda Lee, Alfonzo Armstead, Korey Chock, Anthony Altomare, Dave Mendonsa, Pierce Machigashira, John Kanaulu, Lorrin Okumura, Felimon Juliano, and Alan Young**. While learning something beneficial, all who participated developed a valuable working relationship with their counterparts within the Emergency Services Department. Congratulations to the dedicated Ocean Safety crew who successfully completed the course and thanks to all the EMTs and MICTs who assisted.

The Honolulu Emergency Services Department (HESD) has a new revamped website. Built and maintained by Ian Santee and Jimmy Barros, the website offers departmental information, maps, beach information and safety tips in both English and Japanese. Visit the HESD site at www.co.honolulu.hi.us/esd.

4 Doing their part for injury prevention, crews of the Hawaii County Fire Department EMS Division participated at several health and safety fairs during the past fall. Their efforts at educating the public about high blood pressure resulted in over 300 screenings at three sites. **HCFD EMS Battalion Chief Scotty Paiva** also reports that his crew rounded out 2002 with an AED presentation for the Chamber of Commerce.

5 After the attacks of September 11, 2001, Oahu’s first responders showed their patriotism and their support for their New York and Washington D.C. colleagues by participating in a spirited halftime show at a UH Warriors game. This year, at the one year anniversary of the tragedy, **EMS, Police, and Fire personnel** once again expressed their support by lending their voices to a special video recording of “Give Aloha” at Sunset on the Beach, spearheaded by local entertainer Jesse Rivera. Copies of the video were sent as a gift to New York City in commemoration of the September 11 terrorist attacks.



Safer Keiki Transport HCFD EMS Shows How

Hawaii County.

"I called my counterparts around the nation and determined that currently there are no standards for the equipment used to transport pediatric patients," said Paiva. "So we conducted our

own investigation. After looking through the available resources, we chose what we determined to be the most effective and most durable pediatric transport seat and came up with the Pedi-Pal."

Pedi-Pals are collapsible child transport seats suitable for use in an ambulance. It can be secured in the captain's chair or, as an alternative, in the front passenger seat with the airbag deactivated. When not in use in the rig, it can easily be stored flat in one of the outside cargo holds.

The HCFD EMS Division applied for and was awarded an Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) mini-grant to launch their project. Because of the high cost per seat, additional funding was needed. A state Department of Transportation (DOT) Safe Communities grant was secured and 14 seats, one for each ambulance unit in Hawaii County, were purchased last fall. Sixty paramedics attended the initial training conducted by Hawaii District Public Health Educator John Kaizuka, a Certified CPS Instructor, on the appropriate use of the seats. They, in turn, are in the process of training 120 EMTs.

"This project has truly been a collaborative community effort," said Paiva. "EMSC, the DOT, the Department of Health, Public Health Nursing, the Hawaii Traffic Safety Council, and the Police Department have all helped HCFD EMS in getting this project off the ground."

When asked about setting the standard for the state in pediatric ambulance transports, Paiva replied, "we all share the same focus and that is to be proactive vs. reactive in order to minimize the impact of pain and suffering of our ill and injured keiki. That's what injury prevention is all about. And the Pedi-Pal is yet another tool in our arsenal to minimize that impact."

Congratulations to the HCFD EMS Division for being a shining example of committed individuals stepping up to the plate and addressing a safety concern in your communities. Hawaii County's keiki thank you!



Demonstrating their know-how with a Pedi-Pal (from left): MICT Intern Keoki Brown and MICTs Kel Kunitomo, Stan Zukeran-Kerr, and Michael Grace.

Hawaii County EMS Chief Scotty Paiva (left) takes his turn while Instructor John Kaizuka looks on.

Ask EMS Battalion Chief Scotty Paiva and the dedicated Hawaii County Fire Department EMS team why they got into EMS and they'll tell you, "to help people." Ask them what one of the first rules of EMS is and they'll say, "do no harm." So when they asked themselves how they could minimize the risks of injury associated with pediatric ambulance transports, they discovered that they are on the cutting edge of a safety issue that is just beginning to be explored.

Unlike the well-developed and publicized Child Passenger Safety (CPS) standards, guidelines for the safe transport of ill and injured keiki in ambulances are still under development. Paiva and his team wasted no time in doing their homework—to fill critical knowledge gaps and develop standards for pediatric EMS transport safety throughout